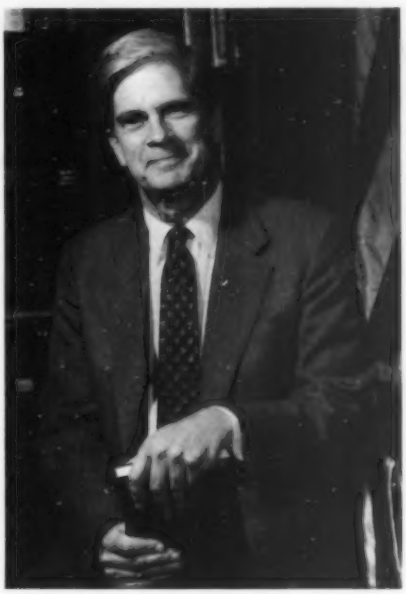
ISSN 0041-7904

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 46, No. 31 August 3, 1987

James H. Billington Confirmed as The Thirteenth Librarian of Congress

James H. Billington was confirmed on July 24 by the U.S. Senate to become the next Librarian of Congress. He will be the 13th incumbent of that position since the Library was established in 1800. Dr. Billington, who is an author and historian as well as an educator and administrator, has served since 1973 as the director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Dr. Billington is expected to assume his duties as Librarian in late September.



"I am deeply grateful that the President has nominated me and the Senate confirmed me for this important position of public trust," Dr. Billington said. "The Library of Congress is a unique American treasure—providing ideas for our legislature, memory for our nation,

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and hope for our world. I hope that I can honor and preserve the enduring values of a free people and of this magnificent institution as I join its dedicated and talented staff in helping explore new approaches and programs to realize its full potential for human enrichment and betterment in the years ahead."

A native of Pennsylvania, Dr. Billington was educated in the public schools of the Philadelphia area. He received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University, graduating as valedictorian of the class of 1950. Three years later he earned his doctorate from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar at Balliol College. Following service with the U.S. Army, he became a history instructor at Harvard University in 1957 and became an assistant professor of history and research fellow at the Russian Research Center the next year. He moved to the faculty of Princeton University in 1962 and was made professor of history at Princeton in 1964.

Since September 1973, Dr. Billington has been the director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the congressionally created national memorial to the 28th President. Under his directorship, eight new programs were established at the center, beginning with the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies in 1974. The number of meetings grew to more than 250 a year, including some 20 multi-day international conferences annually. The *Wilson Quarterly,* which he founded at the center in 1976, reaches 110,000 paid subscribers, and 12 detailed scholars' guides to educational resources in Washington have been published.

Dr. Billington is the author of a number of books, two of which—*The Icon and the Axe* and *Fire in the Minds of Men*—were nominated for National Book Awards, and he is widely published in both professional and popular journals. He also has participated as host, commentator, or consultant on numerous educational and network programs, and he has accompanied several congressional delegations to the U.S.S.R. Last fall he was a member of the delegation of the Episcopal Church to the Russian Orthodox Church that visited the U.S.S.R.

Concurrently with other positions he has held over the years, he also has been a longtime member of the editorial advisory board of *Foreign Affairs,* a former member of the editorial advisory board of *Theology Today,* and a past director of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. He was a member of the Board of Foreign Scholarships in 1971–76 (chairman, 1971–73), which has executive responsibility for academic exchanges worldwide under the Fulbright-Hays Act. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow, a McCosh Faculty Fellow of Princeton University, and a visiting lecturer or research professor at numerous universities and resarch centers overseas. He is also a past vice chairman of the Board of Trustees of St. Albans School in Washington, D.C.

In addition to his other honors, Dr. Billington is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and holds honorary degrees from a number of universities. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters of France.

Born in Bryn Mawr, Pa., on June 1, 1929, Dr. Billington is married to the former Marjorie Anne Brennan. They have four children, Susan Billington Harper, Anne Billington Fischer, James Hadley, Jr., and Thomas Keator.

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Information Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin,* Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

Library Produces Unique Compressed Audio Disk

The Library of Congress has completed production of a first-of-a-kind single interactive audio disk containing 33 hours of sound, reproducing nearly every spoken-word disk manufactured before 1910 held by the Library as well as recordings of politicians, made between 1918 and 1920.

The Compressed Audio Disk, under production between 1985 and 1987, implements new optical disk technology to produce a seven-inch, single-sided, laser-read disk which has a longer playing time than any other in existence. If a double-sided 12-inch disk were produced using the same technology it could hold 200 hours of audio material. The Library's disk, produced for research use and not offered for sale, is available for listening by the public in the Recorded Sound Reference Center of the Library's Performing Arts

Reading Room (Room LM 113 in the James Madison Memorial Building).

The disk, believed to be the first of its kind, reproduces 668 early sound recordings—nearly every spoken-word disk manufactured before 1910 in the collections of the Library. In addition, it contains copies of 55 "Nation's Forum" disks, a rare and important 78 rpm label of 1918–1920 which recorded prominent American political figures. Each recording on the Compressed Audio Disk is fully indexed by title, performer, genre, and subject.

Access to this discographic information, and playback of the recordings, are directly controlled by the user of the disk through a menu-driven microcomputer. The system, developed for the Library of Congress by Interactive Production Associates of Santa Monica, Calif., utilizes an "Eeco" decoder and dBase III Plus relational databases to access still-frames on a videodisk into which encoded audio segments have been recorded. The system's databases control the access to the specific video frames in which each recording has been stored, and access to the bibliographic information provided for each recording. The catalog and access systems are self-contained in one "user-friendly" unit.

Through the Compressed Audio Disk one can rediscover and study 19th-century actors and actresses, late minstrelsy and early vaudeville, post-World-War-I political issues, the presidential candidates of 1908 and 1920, and once-popular but now forgotten sound recording comic stars and genres, such as Cal Stewart's "Uncle Josh" rube monologues, George Graham's auctions, and the once-ubiquitous "descriptive specialties"—vaudeville-like humorous recordings of jokes, music, and sound effects which were extremely popular in the first years of this century.

The project was undertaken as part of the Library of Congress' mission to develop and investigate new preservation techniques and media, and to make its collections more accessible through better cataloging and faster retrieval.

The Library of Congress Optical Disk Pilot Project has, since 1984, provided rapid access to 150,000 still images on videodisks available to the public in the Prints and Photographs and Motion Picture and Television Reading Rooms. Production of the Compressed Audio Disk comes on the centennial of the invention of the first audio disk in 1887 by Washington inventor Emile Berliner.

Library Issues Latest Volume In *Folklife Annual* Series

Breakdancing, Finnish-American saunas, and a depression-era Minnesota logging camp are among the subjects presented in the recent publication of the Library of Congress *Folklife Annual 1986*.

The annual is the second in a series designed to present a collection of pictures and essays on traditional expressive life and culture, primarily but not exclusively, of the people of the United States. *Folklife*

Lumberjacks at dinner (Minnesota, 1937), photograph by Russell Lee for the Farm Security Administration, Library of Congress.

Annual 1985 was recently named one of the Notable Documents of 1986 by the American Library Association.

Edited by Alan Jabbour, director of the American Folklife Center, and James Hardin, folklife publications editor, the essays in the 176-page clothbound volume are intended for a wide audience. There are 103 illustrations in all, of which 29 are in full color.

A common theme links the essays in this volume: each presents an encounter between two groups within a society or between an outside observer and the community observed.

This theme is most evident in the *Annual's* lead article, "Breakdancing: A Reporter's Story" by Sally Banes. In April 1981, Ms. Banes wrote an article for the *Village Voice* describing a new kind of dance competition, associated with graffiti and martial arts, making

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International Children's Book Day Is Celebrated by the Children's Literature Center

Erik Blegvad, well-known Danish children's author and illustrator, was the featured speaker at the opening program of the first annual celebration of International Children's Book Day (ICBD) hosted by the Children's Literature Center at the Library of Congress. The two-day celebration (May 1–2) included screenings of the film classic "Hans Christian Andersen" and Ezra Jack Keats' "The Snowy Day," and was made possible by a grant to the Children's Literature Center by the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation.

The topic of Mr. Blegvad's slide-lecture, "Hans Christian Andersen from an Artist's Viewpoint," was chosen to commemorate the 182nd birthday of Andersen, the beloved children's author.

The world known to Mr. Blegvad during his childhood was not unlike that known to Andersen in the 19th century, as parts of Denmark remain, even today, largely unchanged visually from the way they were for hundreds of years. Two of Mr. Blegvad's best-known works are his illustrated translations of Andersen's fairytales, *The Swineherd* and *The Emperor's New Clothes*.

Slides of books in the Jean Hersholt Collection in the Library of Congress highlighted the presentation and included, in addition to Mr. Blegvad's own illustrations, those by artists Vilhelm Pedersen, Einar Nerman, Otto Speckter, Hans Tegner, and Edmund Dulac.

The Denmark encountered by Mr. Blegvad during his childhood explorations by bicycle and on his father's ship is immediately evident in his graceful illustrations of Andersen's works. His opinion that artists should exercise great discretion in illustrating an author's work—that the images should "accompany" the stories told—is also evident. According to Mr. Blegvad, the good illustrator, like the good musical accompanist, constantly queries whether he or she might be "too loud."

Mr. Blegvad was joined at the lecture by his wife, Lenore, also a published author, and whose books he has illustrated.

Prior to the lecture, opening remarks were delivered by Ruth Ann Stewart, assistant librarian for national programs, and Sybille Jagusch, chief of the Children's Literature Center. Martin Pope, a chemistry professor at New York University and president of the Ezra Jack Keats foundation, delivered a "fairytale" tribute to Mr. Keats, his friend and the children's author and illustrator best remembered for his book *The Snowy Day*.

The Snowy Day was the first winner of the Caldecott Medal (1963) to tell the tale of a black child in full color, and is a poignant example of Mr. Keats' captivating use of both words and illustration. His books have been translated into 16 languages, and a series of greeting cards he illustrated for UNICEF provided medical aid for children on three continents. The most lasting legacy left by Mr. Keats will, with time, no doubt prove to be the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation. The foundation provides early support and recognition for artists and others who devote their creative talents to children and has established, with UNICEF and the United States Board on Books for Young People, a biennial award to encourage talented but not-yet-established illustrators to continue in the field of children's books.

A special screening in the Library's Mary Pickford Theatre of the film "Hans Christian Andersen" was the closing event of the ICBD celebration. The 1952 Samuel Goldwyn production starring Danny Kaye was a fitting tribute not only to Andersen, but also to Mr. Kaye, who devoted his life's work to children's issues as well as other humanitarian and philanthropic causes.

ICBD is an annual project of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) observed on or near April 2, the anniversary of Andersen's birth. A gift from the Keats Foundation has now made possible an annual spring observance at the Library of Congress. Through its support of arts programs to benefit children and its cooperation with organizations such as UNICEF and IBBY, the foundation fosters the idea that joy and creative expression are as important to the education and well-being of children as is the fulfilment of their physical needs.

The Children's Literature Center gratefully acknowledges the recent gift from the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation and the permission granted by Films, Inc., for the screening of "Hans Christian Andersen." The screening of "The Snowy Day" at the opening program was made possible by its producer, Weston Woods.

—Kim E. Kelley, consultant
Children's Literature Center

Folklife Annual *(Continued from p. 343)*

rounds of groups of urban young people. Ms. Banes details how her interest, and subsequent media attention, shaped a dance form with roots extending back to 19th-century black dance culture.

Folklife Annual 1986 is available for $19 by mail from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (when ordering, cite stock number 030-000-00179-6), or in person at the Information and Sales Counter, Ground Floor, Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building.

STAFF NEWS

Dina Nath Wadhwa Conducts Training in Jakarta Office

Soaloon Pardede (left), Erna Alim Zubir, Dina Nath Wadhwa, Dorothy Rachmat, Gloria Kakisina, and M. Rachmana Achmad.

Dina Nath Wadhwa of the Library of Congress Field Office in New Delhi visited Indonesia this spring to conduct a training session for the cataloging staff of the Library's Field Office in Jakarta. Mr. Wadhwa's efforts were targeted on MARC content designation and Overseas Data Entry (ODE) tagging procedures. Jakarta cataloging records for Southeast Asian microfiche produced in New Delhi will, after testing, be loaded input into ODE for transmission to the Library of Congress. The Jakarta staff prepared six test batches, a total of 120 records, during the training session.

Reminder

Library staff members are reminded that articles written for the LC *Information Bulletin* about meetings and events should be submitted as soon as possible after the event, certainly no longer than one month. This will help maintain timeliness of the *Bulletin,* each issue of which is planned several weeks in advance.

Candidates Are Sought For 1988 LCPA Offices

The Library of Congress Professional Association is pleased to announce efforts to assemble a slate of candidates to run for its 1988 offices.

Members of this year's Nominating Committee are: Norma Baker, Copyright Office; Ann Christy, Management Services; Daryle Dade, Processing Services; Carl Fleischhauer, National Programs; Mary Kramer, Research Services; Jim Moldovan, CRS, chair; Karen Wood, Office of the Librarian; and Wendy Zeldin, Law Library. The Nominating Committee has the responsibility of nominating at least two candidates, when feasible, for each elective office: president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

In addition to nomination by the committee, nominations for each office can be made by self-nomination and by nomination by petition. LCPA members can notify the committee in writing of their willingness to be considered for candidacy. Such self-nominations must be submitted to any committee member before August 15.

Any additional nominee shall be placed on the ballot upon receipt of a petition supporting that nominee's candidacy, signed by at least 20 LCPA members. Nominations by petition must be submitted to a member of the committee by October 2.

LCPA members will have an opportunity to meet and talk with the final slate of candidates at the annual membership meeting to be held November 10. Members are encouraged to take an active role in nominating strong candidates for the 1988 slate, thereby assuring another vital and successful year for the association.

The LCPA is an organization of Library employees best known for its monthly special-interest-group meetings, an annual book sale, and other special lectures and events during the year. Membership in LCPA is open to any current or retired Library of Congress staff member upon payment of $3 annual dues.

—Norma K. Baker

David I. Gresty wins honors For Playwriting and Poetry

David I. Gresty, office of the Director, Congressional Research Service (CRS), who writes under the name David Price-Gresty, has won the University of Wisconsin's 1987 Playwriting Competition for his play, *The Rainbow Factor.* The competition, which includes a $1,000 cash prize and a fall production by the University's Dramatic Arts Discipline, was judged by playwright Israel Horowitz and by Julius Novick, theater critic of the *Village Voice. The Rainbow Factor* deals

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David Gresty *(Continued from p. 345)*
with Mr. Price-Gresty's parents and their decision to emigrate from Wales in 1948.

In February, he was commissioned to write a 45-minute, one-act play by ARTS, DC. The completed work, *Project Liberty,* opened in the Very Special Arts Festival at the Kennedy Center in April and then went on tour throughout the Washington, D.C., area.

His newest play, *The Blue Funk,* was one of the four finalists in the 1987 Siena College Playwriting Competition.

In January, Mr. Price-Gresty's first volume of poetry, *Hymnal,* won the Amelia Book Award and will be published this summer. His poetry, which strongly reflects his Welsh background, has won several prizes, including the Amelia Awards for four consecutive years (no other poet has won the award consecutively). He has been invited to read his poetry at the Miller Cabin in Rock Creek Park on August 4. The reading is sponsored by Word Works and by Poets and Writers, Inc., through a grant from the Jenny McKean Moore Fund.

Mr. Price-Gresty, who has worked for CRS for 13 years, is married to British actress Veida Dehmlow. Their first child, Hannah Louise, was born on April 27.

Patricia P. Martin Receives 20-Year Federal Service Award

Patricia P. Martin, acquisition assistant in the Subscription and Microform Section, Order Division, was presented with a 20-year Federal Service Award pin by Michael W. Albin, chief, Order Division, on April 14.

Ms. Martin began work in the Order Division as a voucher examiner in 1968, in the Receiving and Clearing Section. She became an acquisition assistant in the Subscription and Microform Section in 1973. Ms. Martin began her service to the Library in 1966 as a production assistant arranger, Catalog Publications Section, Catalog Maintenance and Publications Division.

Three Success Stories at CRS

Three members of the Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division of the Congressional Research Service (CRS)—Brenda Branaman, Bert Cooper, and C. Winston Woodland—have recently reached great milestones in their careers. Brenda Branaman and Bert Cooper both have completed 20 years of service with the Federal government. Winston Woodland has marked his 25th anniversary with the Federal government. The former division chief, Stanley Heginbotham, presented Federal Service Award pins to all three and congratulated them at division celebrations.

Two of the honorees, Brenda Branaman and Winston Woodland, attained their present positions through the Crossover Program. This program assisted Library of Congress employees in the 1970s to gain higher-grade positions through financial support for ongoing education and on-the-job training in their sponsoring divisions. While participating in the program, Ms. Branaman earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Federal City College (now known as the University of the District of Columbia) and Mr. Woodland finished 30 credits toward his master's degree in Library Science at the University of Maryland.

Ms. Branaman joined CRS in 1966 as an editorial assistant in the Senior Specialist Division. She attended night classes from 1973 to 1982 to earn her degree. She is currently a research analyst specializing in Sub-Saharan African issues, and is often of great assistance and encouragement to junior analysts. Now that she has completed her degree, she appreciates the extra time available with her three children.

Bert Cooper came to CRS in 1972. He earned his bachelor's degree from Furman University in Greenville, S.C., and his master's degree from the School of Government at George Washington University. At that point in his career, he had served in several professional positions including a three-year period as a research assistant and translator of Russian literature in the Library of Congress Air Research Division. After his first experience at the Library of Congress, Mr. Cooper went on to become a research scientist with American University's Special Operations Research Office which later evolved into the American Institute for Research in Kensington, Md. There he authored many articles on foreign relations and participated in several studies of counterinsurgency and revolutionary conflicts. When he returned to the Library, Mr. Cooper came to his current position as a national defense analyst specializing in tactical aviation issues.

Winston Woodland has been with the Federal government for 25 years. He started in the Library Services Division of CRS as a file assistant and worked his way to become supervisor of the Processing Unit. He earned his bachelor's degree in political science by taking evening and weekend classes at the University

STAFF NEWS

of Maryland during the ten years he spent in Library Services. In 1965 he took a break from CRS and enlisted in the Air Force, serving for three years in various posts in the United States and Turkey. Upon discharge he returned to his job in Library Services. Mr. Woodland was accepted in the Crossover Program as foreign affairs and national defense information analyst, responsible for the division library. He is contemplating further studies, possibly a master's degree in international affairs.

Staff Carpool Locator

Carpool seeks an additional rider or driver from the Burke/Kings Park, Annandale, Va., area, meeting near Kings Park shopping center. Currently on a compflex schedule with a preference for 6:30 a.m. starting time, but willing to negotiate schedule. Call Barbara Christy, ext. 78515.

Established carpool from Laurel, Md., seeks additional driver/rider. Currently on a flexitime schedule, 6:50 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Call Linda Geisler, ext. 76438.

Personnel Changes

Appointments: William Callanan, retirement counselor, Pers Opns., GS-11, 70166; James Chajkowski, contracts specialist, P&S, GS-12, 70105; Larry Dickens, motor vehicle operator, CS, WG-5, 70183; Theon Parker, messenger, Desc Cat, GS-2, 70111; Tracey Stackhouse, information counter attendant, Inf, GS-3, N106K; Rosalyn Wilcots, legal advisor to the chief, EO, GS-13, 70228.

Temporary appointments: Mary Ammen, graduate assistant, GRR, GS-9; Monica Anderson, clerk-typist, Cop Inf & Ref, GS-1; Antonio Arnold, worker-trainee, Cop Rec & Proc, GS-1; Mary Beale, library aid, CRS F, GS-1; Shaw Bell, clerk, Cop Rec & Proc, GS-1; Miatta Brooks, worker-trainee, Cop Rec & Proc, GS-1; Jerold Brown, graduate assistant, CRS G, GS-7; Dianne Burrell, clerk-typist, Cop Cat, GS-1; Katrina Butler, clerk-typist, Cop Inf & Ref, GS-1; Malcolm Carter, deck attendant, Col Mgmt, GS-3, G114N; Austin Cooper, graduate assistant, CRS G, GS-9; Troi DuBose, clerk-typist, Cop Inf & Ref, GS-1; Kimberly Harris, library aid, CRS C, GS-2; Angela Herring, worker trainee, Audit, GS-1; Ronald Jeter, library aid, CRS G, GS-1; Christel Johnson, clerk typist, Cop Exam, GS-1; Gary Kamimura, graduate assistant, CRS EMR, GS-7; Chere Larkin, clerk, Cop Rec & Proc, GS-1; Tonya Lewis, clerk-typist, Cop Inf & Ref, GS-1; Cherie Logan, clerk-typist, Cop Inf & Ref, GS-1; Michelle Minor, library aid, CRS, GS-1; Regina L. Nixon, library aid, CRS, GS-1; Paula Roberts, COP deposit copies storage clerk, Cop Inf & Ref, GS-4; Orlanzo Ross, library aid, Sci, GS-1; Jonathan Rudolph, reference assistant, CRS G, GS-4; Toshiro Settles, worker-trainee, Cop Dep & Acq, GS-1; Gerri Shaw, library aid, CRS C, GS-2; Chereace Spriggs, clerk-typist, Cop Exam, GS-1; Jeffrey Surak, library aid, CRS L, GS-1; Eugene Thomas, worker trainee, Cop Rec & Proc, GS-1; William Thompson, clerk-typist, Eop Exam, GS-1; Marvin Thorogood, library aid, CRS L, GS-1; Antoinette Tsai, library aid, MARC Ed, GS-3; Robert Vidaver, staffing assistant, Pers R&P, GS-5; Coletta Void, clerk-typist, Cop Cat, GS-1.

Reappointments: Nerissa Dixon, clerk-typist, FRD, GS-3; Blake Lloyd, microphotographer, Photodup, GT-4; Jill Roberts, library technician, P&P, GS-6.

Resignations: Steven Besner, Staf Rel; Elizabeth Carl, NLS/BPH; Bunzalene Cave, FRD; John Crestwell, Cop Rec & Proc; Patricia Fay, Spec Mat; Olive James, Loan; Stacey Kean, CRS E; Philip Lalka, P&S; Robert G. Phillips, CRS F; Gary B. Sink, CRS C; Carol Smalls, Cop Cat; Renee Witon, NLS/BPH; Evette Woolen, Cop Exam.

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Monday, August 17

☐ The Library of Congress Town Crier makes another of his regular Monday appearances as part of the celebration of the U.S. Constitution Bicentennial. Topics include weekly chronicles of the momentous events taking place in Philadelphia 200 years ago. Neptune Plaza, Thomas Jefferson Building, 12 noon; and Independence Avenue entrance to the James Madison Memorial Building, 12:15 p.m.

Wednesday, August 19

☐ "Contract Administration and the Art of Grievance Handling," Joseph Broderick, assistant labor relations officer, Library of Congress. Mumford Room, 10:30 a.m. **For supervisors and managers.**

Thursday, August 20

☐ Afro-American Gospel Music, Mattie Johnson and the Stars of Faith together with the Southern Gospel Singers. Free Outdoor Concert Series, American Folklife Center. Neptune Plaza, Thomas Jefferson Building, 12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

Events are open to the public unless otherwise noted.

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INFORMATION BULLETIN
ISSN 0041-7904

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